

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-02 EB-07 CG-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 COA-01

DLOS-05 FRB-01 OMB-01 TAR-01 SP-02 AGR-10 AID-05

LAB-04 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-01

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USCG:DHINTZE

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R 110014Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS STATE 006918

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, IMCO

SUBJECT: IMCO - PROPOSED CONVENTION AMENDMENTS

1. IMCO WILL CONVENE AD HOC WORKING GROUP FEBRUARY 17-21 TO STUDY PROPOSALS ON AMENDMENTS TO IMCO CONVENTION SUBMITTED BY FRANCE AND OTHERS WHICH MAY BE SUBMITTED FOR STUDY BY GROUP. ANY AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED BY GROUP WILL BE CIRCULATED TO MEMBER STATES WITH VIEW TO ADOPTION BY NEXT REGULAR ASSEMBLY IN FALL. FRENCH PROPOSALS, WHICH HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED BY SECRETARIAT, WOULD REQUIRE EXTENSIVE AMENDMENTS TO CONVENTION. OBJECTIVE ACCORDING TO FRENCH NOTE IS TO ENHANCE POWERS OF COUNCIL, INSTITUTIONALIZE LEGAL COMMITTEE AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE, PLACE THESE TWO COMMITTEES ON EQUAL FOOTING WITH MARITIME

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SAFETY COMMITTEE, BRING SECRETARIAT STRUCTURE INTO LINE

WITH COMMITTEE STRUCTURE, AND MODIFY PRESENT PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING CONVENTION. WHILE FRENCH FAILED IN EARLIER ATTEMPTS DURING PAST YEAR TO HAVE ORGANIZATION FOCUS ON FRENCH PROPOSALS, WE EXPECT FEBRUARY MEETING WILL DEAL MAINLY, IF NOT EXCLUSIVELY WITH THEM.

2. FOR PARIS: REQUEST EMBASSY PARIS EXPLORE WITH FRENCH AUTHORITIES WHETHER INTERVENING DISCUSSIONS FRENCH PRESUMABLY HAVE HAD SINCE PROPOSALS FIRST TABLED YEAR AGO HAVE CAUSED FRENCH TO CONSIDER ANY MODIFICATIONS, AND OBTAIN

WHATEVER ELABORATION FRENCH AUTHORITIES MAY OFFER ABOUT FRENCH OBJECTIVES IN AMENDMENTS AND BASES FOR THEM.

3. FOR LONDON: REQUEST EMBASSY LONDON OBTAIN FROM UK AUTHORITIES ANY REFINEMENT IN UK VIEWS ON FRENCH PROPOSAL SINCE US-UK CONSULTATION LAST FALL, AND REVIEW WITH IMCO SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS PROSPECTS THEY SEE FOR ORGANIZATION OF FEBRUARY MEETING (COMPOSITION AND CHAIRMANSHIP), HANDLING OF COMPLEX SUBJECT MATTER, AND LIKELY OUTCOME. KISSINGER

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